



TRICKLE-UP INNOVATION:

How Governments Can Support Grassroots Science & Tech

According to the 2013 U.S. Innovation Index, Switzerland ranks first in Science and Technology cooperation with the United States. Given Switzerland's leadership in innovation, please join us as we consider the role of government in fueling innovation in the private sector – both at home and abroad.

MODERATOR



John Paul Farmer served as Senior Advisor for Innovation in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. In this role, he has focused on the President's innovation agenda, spearheading government innovation through the Presidential Innovation Fellows program while promoting policies that support entrepreneurship and economic growth in the private sector. Previously, John served in the Administration as Senior Advisor for Healthcare Reform, developing the Multi-State Plan program to provide greater consumer choice via the Health Insurance Marketplaces, implementing the Pre-Existing Condition Insurance Plan program for those with serious health conditions, and integrating the Blue Button Download My Data technology into the digital health records of millions of Federal employees. Before his appointment, John worked in the investment management industry at Lehman Brothers and Credit Suisse, launching new business initiatives, identifying investment opportunities, and assessing a broad range of risks during the global financial crisis. He also played professional baseball in the minor league systems of the Los Angeles Dodgers and Atlanta Braves, compiling a .344 career batting average.

PANELISTS



Garren Givens is a Presidential Innovation Fellow working on Open Data Initiatives at the Department of Education. Garren is an experienced entrepreneur and product strategist, and is passionate about consumer Internet. He has contributed articles to VentureBeat and Huffington Post, and his startups have been covered by Entrepreneur, Forbes, TechCrunch, VentureBeat, and other publications. Garren holds a BA and MBA from Yale University, and received the prestigious Silver Anniversary Scholarship from Yale School of Management. He is a self-taught coder, and possibly the only programmer who still prefers books to online tutorials. Garren is an avid golfer and classical pianist. He lives in Washington, DC, with his wife, Alexandra.



Hillary Hartley is a Presidential Innovation Fellow working on the MyUSA project at the General Services Administration. Hillary has been working to make government more accessible and available online for over 15 years, starting as a web designer for Arkansas.gov in 1997. In her most recent role as Director of Integrated Marketing for eGovernment provider NIC, Hillary helped NIC's 29 state portals embrace new technology and concepts for a 21st century government. She speaks at events across the country, educating and evangelizing "government 2.0" and social networking best practices for government. In 2004, Hillary led the team that created MyPollingPlace.com – the first-ever nationwide polling place lookup site launched during the 2004 November general election.



Andreas Ledergerber obtained his M.A. degree in communication science and history from the University of Zurich, where he contributed to research projects in the field of concentration of media ownership and self-regulation in the media sector. He joined the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH Zurich) in 2006, working as a senior advisor in the Office of the Vice President for Research and Corporate Relations, advising the executive board on both strategic and operational levels on international research initiatives. Since October 1, 2013, Andreas Ledergerber is the Head of the Office for Science, Technology and Higher Education at the Embassy of Switzerland in the United States.